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Missouri Census Update

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Spring 1999

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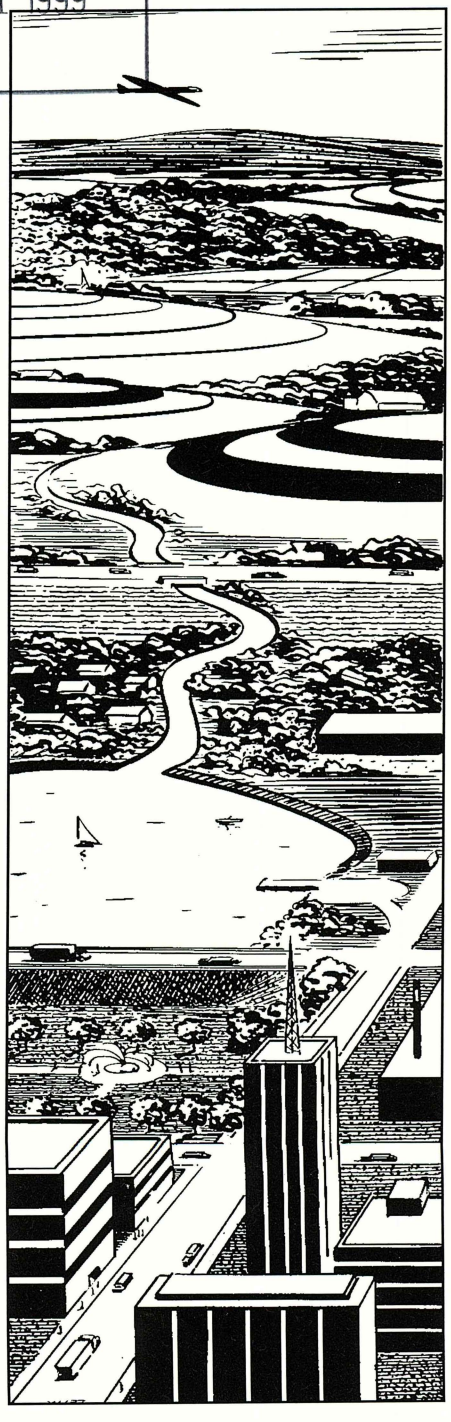
A century of population change

By Ryan Burson, State Demographer



The State of Missouri has undergone nothing less than a demographic revolution since 1900. It will have grown by 2.4 million persons by the year 2000. This growth has fluctuated considerably from region to region and from decade to decade.

Mostly natural growth

The typical image of American population expansion is one of massive net in-migration of settlers from the East and from overseas. Although the Show-Me State did attract its share of immigrants, this influx slowed after 1910. There were consistent gains of African American migrants heading northward for jobs in urban areas. But overall, due to the substantial shifts of population to the West and more recently to the South, Missouri experienced net out-migration or only very small migration gains in the decades leading up to the 1990 Census. This means that our growth has been natural, the result of births over deaths. Steadily declining mortality rates throughout the century were accompanied by fertility rates that also declined early on, rose sharply at mid-century, and declined again to Great Depression levels toward century's end. If predictions about demographic behavior for the short remainder of this century hold, the population change equation for Missouri will read something like this:

	1900 Population	3,106,665
plus	1900-2000 Births	7,579,104
minus	1900-2000 Deaths	4,732,830
plus	1900-2000 Net Migration	-447,430
	2000 Population	**5,505,509**

Farms, Towns, and Cities

The 1900-1997 population trends map tells the story of Missouri's transition from the rural-agrarian, to the urban-industrial, to the suburban post-industrial service economy. In 1900, virtually half of Missouri's population lived on the state's 285,000 farms. By 1950, less than a quarter

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➤ A century of population change

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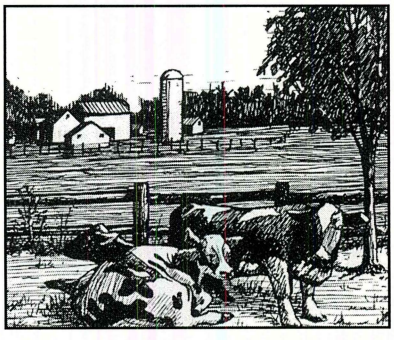
of our population lived on 230,000 farms. Today, fewer than five percent of our population live on 100,000 farms. When tractors and other modern methods replaced animal and human labor, farms grew larger, farmers became fewer, and towns became smaller. Rail, trucks, and highways aided industrialization and consolidation. Consider Missouri's 25 largest cities in 1900. St. Louis, Kansas City (Jackson County), St. Joseph (Buchanan County), Joplin (Jasper County), and Springfield (Greene County) were at the top of the list, but so were the northern communities of Hannibal (Marion County), Moberly (Randolph County), Chillicothe (Livingston County), Brookfield (Linn County), Trenton (Grundy County), Louisiana (Pike County), and Marshall (Saline County). These latter communities have either grown very little in the last 100 years or have lost population.

At the beginning of the century, only one-third of Missouri's people lived in areas defined as "urban" by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. That figure has grown to about 70 percent today. But this is not to say that our largest cities have enjoyed uninterrupted growth. St. Louis, the fourth largest urban area in America in 1900, rose to its population zenith (856,796) in 1950, but now has a population much smaller (339,316) than it did a century ago. It is important to note that St. Louis has had a fixed border, while other cities have annexed sizable tracts of unpopulated territory. Kansas City reached its population zenith (507,087) in 1970. Its population has moved up and down in the last 50 years, and currently stands at 434,829.

No other Missouri city has emerged as a serious contender in size to Kansas City and St. Louis. However, dozens of nearby communities in Jackson County and St. Louis County have grown substantially, and in recent decades so have suburban ring communities in Cass, Clay, Platte, Franklin, Jefferson, and St.Charles counties. Indeed, in apparent pursuit of the rural amenities they once enjoyed—lower living costs, more space, less crowding—the population continues to spread out from the urban core.

Back to the Country



Shifts from the state's urban centers in the 1970s led demographers to believe that a "rural renaissance" was under way. It certainly was true that a number of agricultural counties either lost fewer people or gained population. And many counties in the Ozarks experienced new or accelerated growth. The agricultural crisis of the 1980s reversed this trend in north Missouri, but the Ozarks continued to grow rapidly.

Population shifts in the 1990s have been marked by net in-migration higher than at any time this century and by continued expansion into suburbia and the Ozarks. There has also been another reversal in nonmetropolitan rates of growth in northern and southern Missouri. Rural agricultural counties are gaining population again. Forty-one counties—fully a third of the state's counties—whose 1990 populations were lower than 90 years earlier are gaining population in the 1990s.

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The population of the United States has grown by almost 200 million people during this century. Total population in 1900 was 76,094,000; the most recent estimate (1998) places the national total at 270,298,524.

The Census Bureau projects that the total population in the United States will have reached 275,000,000 by the year 2000.

Missouri county populations 1900 to 1990 (See page 1 article)

1900 Rank	Missouri County	1900 Census Population	1998 Population Estimate	1998 Rank	Population Change 1900 to 1998
1	St. Louis City	575,238	339,316	3	-235,922
2	Jackson	195,193	654,986	2	459,793
3	Buchanan	121,838	81,776	11	-40,062
4	Jasper	84,018	99,532	9	15,514
5	Greene	52,713	226,758	5	174,045
6	St. Louis County	50,040	998,696	1	948,656
7	Saline	33,703	22,703	46	-11,000
8	Macon	33,018	15,278	66	-17,740
9	Nodaway	32,938	20,777	52	-12,161
10	Pettis	32,438	37,069	25	4,631
11	Lafayette	31,679	32,653	33	974
12	Lawrence	31,662	33,122	30	1,460
13	Vernon	31,619	19,436	56	-12,183
14	Franklin	30,581	91,763	10	61,182
15	Bates	30,141	15,770	64	-14,371
16	Boone	28,642	129,098	8	100,456
17	Henry	28,054	21,232	51	-6,822
18	Johnson	27,843	47,644	19	19,801
19	Newton	27,001	49,152	17	22,151
20	Chariton	26,826	8,621	95	-18,205
21	Carroll	26,455	10,217	85	-16,238
22	Marion	26,331	27,771	37	1,440
23	Callaway	25,984	37,437	24	11,453
24	Pike	25,744	16,347	62	-9,397
25	Jefferson	25,712	195,675	6	169,963
26	Barry	25,532	33,120	31	7,588
27	Linn	25,503	13,808	72	-11,695
28	Ray	24,805	23,708	43	-1,097
29	Stoddard	24,669	29,623	35	4,954
30	St. Charles	24,474	272,353	4	247,879
31	Randolph	24,442	24,024	42	-418
32	Harrison	24,398	8,506	97	-15,892
33	Cape Girardeau	24,315	66,314	15	41,999
34	St. Francois	24,051	55,517	16	31,466
35	Cass	23,636	80,520	12	56,884
36	Polk	23,255	25,530	39	2,275
37	Cooper	22,532	16,029	63	-6,503
38	Livingston	22,302	14,151	69	-8,151
39	Texas	22,192	22,357	48	165
40	Howell	21,834	35,776	27	13,942
41	Adair	21,728	24,286	41	2,558
42	Dunklin	21,706	32,700	32	10,994
43	Daviess	21,325	7,842	101	-13,483
44	Audrain	21,160	23,573	44	2,413
45	Cole	20,578	69,307	14	48,729
46	Gentry	20,554	6,938	105	-13,616
47	Sullivan	20,282	7,040	103	-13,242
48	Monroe	19,716	9,021	92	-10,695
49	Clay	18,903	176,206	7	157,303
50	Lincoln	18,352	36,556	26	18,204
51	Howard	18,337	9,741	90	-8,596
52	Barton	18,253	12,078	79	-6,175
53	Dade	18,125	7,892	100	-10,233
54	St. Clair	17,907	9,080	91	-8,827
55	Grundy	17,832	10,159	88	-7,673
56	Wright	17,519	19,578	55	2,059
57	Clinton	17,363	19,070	57	1,707
58	Andrew	17,332	15,562	65	-1,770
59	Holt	17,083	5,554	109	-11,529
60	Christian	16,939	48,997	18	32,058
61	Cedar	16,923	13,215	75	-3,708
62	Douglas	16,802	12,422	78	-4,380
63	Butler	16,769	40,561	20	23,792
64	Lewis	16,724	10,199	86	-6,525
65	Putnam	16,688	4,912	110	-11,776
66	Caldwell	16,656	8,838	93	-7,818
67	Webster	16,640	29,108	36	12,468
68	Montgomery	16,571	12,074	80	-4,497
69	Benton	16,556	17,040	61	484
70	Laclede	16,523	31,029	34	14,506
71	Atchison	16,501	6,999	104	-9,502
72	Platte	16,193	70,068	13	53,875
73	Shelby	16,167	6,802	106	-9,365
74	Moniteau	15,931	13,263	74	-2,668
75	Clark	15,383	7,467	102	-7,916
76	Wayne	15,309	13,059	76	-2,250
77	Miller	15,187	22,422	47	7,235
78	Perry	15,134	17,410	60	2,276
79	Mercer	14,706	4,003	114	-10,703
80	Bollinger	14,650	11,513	81	-3,137
81	DeKalb	14,418	11,129	83	-3,289
82	Washington	14,263	22,966	45	8,703
83	Phelps	14,194	38,592	22	24,398
84	Osage	14,096	12,425	77	-1,671
85	Oregon	13,906	10,164	87	-3,742
86	Dallas	13,903	15,245	67	1,342
87	McDonald	13,574	19,887	54	6,313
88	Knox	13,479	4,355	113	-9,124
89	Scotland	13,232	4,814	111	-8,418
90	Ripley	13,186	14,072	71	886
91	Camden	13,113	33,952	29	20,839
92	Scott	13,092	40,262	21	27,170
93	Dent	12,986	14,103	70	1,117
94	Crawford	12,959	22,165	49	9,206
95	Gasconade	12,298	14,890	68	2,592
96	Ralls	12,287	8,813	94	-3,474
97	Morgan	12,175	18,434	58	6,259
98	Ozark	12,145	9,897	89	-2,248
99	Pemiscot	12,115	21,516	50	9,401
100	Mississippi	11,837	13,395	73	1,558
101	New Madrid	11,280	20,370	53	9,090
102	Shannon	11,247	8,252	99	-2,995
103	Schuyler	10,840	4,443	112	-6,397
104	Pulaski	10,394	38,507	23	28,113
105	Ste. Genevieve	10,359	17,503	59	7,144
106	Taney	10,127	34,504	28	24,377
107	Hickory	9,985	8,617	96	-1,368
108	Madison	9,975	11,481	82	1,506
109	Warren	9,919	24,600	40	14,681
110	Stone	9,892	26,807	38	16,915
111	Worth	9,832	2,295	115	-7,537
112	Maries	9,616	8,473	98	-1,143
113	Iron	8,716	10,871	84	2,155
114	Reynolds	8,161	6,624	107	-1,537
115	Carter	6,706	6,387	108	-319
	State of Missouri	3,106,665	5,438,559		2,331,894

100 years ago the U.S. Census reflected simpler times

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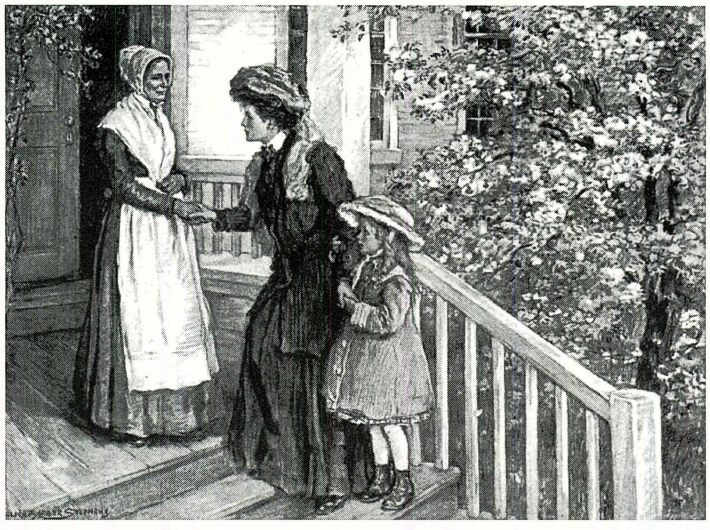


In 1900, William McKinley was president, fewer than 10,000 registered automobiles poked along the 125,000 miles of "surfaced" roads at top speeds of 20-30 mph and census day came on June 1—after planting and before harvesting when the 40 percent of the population who lived on farms returned from the fields.

About 53,000 census-takers went door-to-door for up to eight weeks to count an average of 1,400 residents each. The census-taker carried an 80-page book of instructions and a "general schedule" of 22 questions. These included name, age, sex, race, relationship to the "head of household," literacy (11 percent of the population 10 years old and over could not read or write—today the question is not asked), whether the person spoke English, and where he or she was born (nearly 14 percent of the 76 million population in 1900 were foreign-born; in 1997, an estimated 9.7 percent of a population that had grown to 268 million were born outside the United States). The answers were filled in sequentially by the census-taker.

One hundred years later, more than half a million census-takers will conduct the 22nd national census in what will be the largest peacetime effort in the United States since government programs were put in place to deal with the Great Depression in the 1930s. The Census Bureau projects the nation's population on April 1, 2000, will be about 274 million people.

One of the questions asked in 1900 of women who at any time had been married was the number of children they had given birth to. The "crude" birth rate was 32.3 births per 1,000 population in 1900, compared with 14.6 births per 1,000 population in 1997. In 1900, less than 5 percent of the population 25 years old and older had graduated from high school; in contrast, 82 percent of the population 25 and over had graduated from high school or gone on to higher education in 1997.

In 1900, the enumerators worked for the then-temporary Census Office, a part of the Department of Interior. There was no address list, no mail-out/mailback of questionnaires and relatively few reliable maps. The devices that came closest to high technology were electric card sorters and tabulators, primitive forerunners of the sophisticated data capture and optical imaging equipment that will be used in 2000.

Delivery of the questionnaires in 2000 will depend largely on the accuracy of the Census Bureau's address list (most of the population will receive a form that is mailed or hand-delivered to an address) and detailed census maps that show where the addresses are located. Five out of six housing units will receive a short form with just seven questions while a long form with 52 questions will go to the remainder.

In 1900, the census-taker might be invited to come in for a cup of tea and a chat; for 2000, the Census Bureau, aware of the accelerated pace of today's lifestyles, stresses that the short form will take the average household about 10 minutes to fill out; the long form, about 38 minutes. Subjects on the short form, announced about two years ago, include age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, household relationship and whether the residence is owned or rented. The long form also covers such subjects as ancestry, bedrooms in housing unit, citizenship, educational attainment, income, heating fuel, journey to work, kitchen facilities, language spoken at home, occupation, plumbing facilities, and vehicles available.

All of the questions on the 2000 questionnaire are either "mandated" or "required" by federal law or imposed by court decisions requiring the use of census data. The Census 2000 short-form questionnaire includes just one new subject, concerning grandparents as primary care-givers

for their grandchildren. This question was mandated by the 1996 Welfare Reform Act.

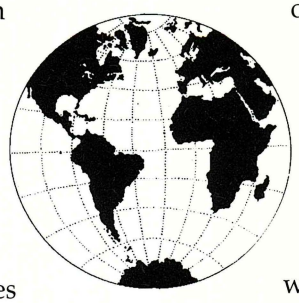
In 1900, "color" or race options were: white, black, Chinese, Japanese, and Indian (American Indian). Changes from 1990 in the 2000 race and Hispanic-origin questions include:

- The question on Hispanic origin will be placed immediately before the question on race instead of after.
- The separate response categories on the race question for "American Indian," "Eskimo," and "Aleut" will be combined in one category: "American Indian and Alaska Native."
- The combined race group "Asian and Pacific Islander" will be replaced by separate race groups: "Asian" and "Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander."
- For the first time in census history, the respondent will be able to report more than one race, as indicated on the questionnaire by the instruction, "Mark one or more races."

The Census 2000 questionnaires—featuring larger type, pictorial representations illustrating the benefits of the census for individuals and their communities and instructions on the questionnaire—are easy to read and understand. Respondents may request questionnaires in five languages other than English: Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Tagalog, and Korean. Questionnaire guides will be printed in about 30 languages.

Respondents are asked to list the names of all the persons living in their household on April 1, 2000. The forms have room to report the full set of characteristics for six persons. In addition, the forms have space to report the names of up to six additional household members. The Census Bureau will contact those households that list seven or more persons. ■

World population growing as century draws to a close



An international brief from the Census Bureau, *World Population at a Glance: 1998 and Beyond,* provides a comprehensive picture of population size and growth, fertility and mortality levels, and age structure in 227 countries and territories during the next quarter century. The report also examines trends in family planning likely to play a key role in determining fertility and natural population increases during the coming decades.

World Population indicates that from the dawn of mankind to the turn of the 19th century, the earth's population grew to a total of 1 billion people. During much of the 19th and 20th centuries, human numbers have risen at increasingly higher rates, and we approach the new century in a world populated by nearly 6 billion people. The world's population is expected to increase to 8 billion by the end of 2026 and will reach 9.3 billion by 2050, according to projections from the Census Bureau.

Over the past three decades, the world's population has continued to grow despite declines in fertility rates that began in many developing countries in the late 1970s, and in spite of the toll taken by the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Current estimates indicate that more than 40 million people have become infected with HIV since the late 1970s; more than 11 million have died from HIV/AIDS.

The report also notes that the growth of human population will be determined almost entirely in the world's less-developed countries. Currently, 99 percent of global natural increase (the difference between numbers of births and numbers of deaths) now occurs in the developing regions of Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Also, while fertility and mortality have reached levels that are unprecedented in human history and continue to decline in most world regions, substantial gaps exist between the world's more-developed and less-developed regions. This year, about 7.7 million children worldwide will die before their first birthday.

The age structure of the of world population will continue to shift over the course of the next 25 years, with older age groups making up an increasingly larger share of the total. During the 1998-2025 period, the world's elderly population (ages 65 and above) will more than double, while the world's youth population (under age 15) will grow by 6 percent.

INFANT MORTALITY IN 1998
(infant deaths per 1,000 live births)

Western Europe	6
North America	6
Latin America/the Caribbean	33
Near East and North Africa	51
Asia	59
Sub-Saharan Africa	92

LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH IN 1998

Western Europe	78
North America	76
Latin America/the Caribbean	69
Near East and North Africa	68
Asia	65
Sub-Saharan Africa	49

Source: *World Population at a Glance: 1998 and Beyond,* International Brief, Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, April 2, 1999.

The Census Bureau's American FactFinder: riding the wave of the coming century

In an effort to meet growing needs to provide "information on demand," the Census Bureau is designing a new interactive electronic system that will allow efficient and cost-effective access to data generated by the 1990 Decennial Census, the 1997 Economic Census, Census 2000, and the American Community Survey. The system, called the American FactFinder, will be able to accommodate other data sets produced by the Census Bureau's economic and demographic programs in the future. It will provide internal and external customers access to three types of information: static data and information products, summary data tables and files, and customized tabulations from summary and microdata files. During its development, the system was referred to as the Data Access and Dissemination System (DADS).

Why build the American FactFinder?

The mission of the Census Bureau is "to be the pre-eminent collector and disseminator of timely, relevant and quality data about the people and economy of the United States." The large volumes of data collected by the Census Bureau require a large and efficient system for providing information. The new system will complement the existing Census Bureau's Internet applications by providing electronic access for the first time to their largest data-collection programs. It will give Census Bureau customers more flexibility to request just the data they need for the geography of interest. The new dissemination plan will allow for quicker release of detailed data many people want. In the past, issuing tables and analyses in printed reports could add months to the process, and because the Census Bureau could only print a selection, users might not get the data they wanted. A major advantage of the system is that it will allow users to receive data and to create their own reports.

What do users want?

The Census Bureau collected user requirements from a full cross section of the user community in the autumn of 1995. Staff then built the first and second prototypes of the system as models for testing and user feedback. The production system is currently being built by a private contractor based on users' evaluations of the prototypes, focus groups, usability testing, and results for Joint Application Design sessions.

The products and services will include:

- announcements of releases & enhancements
- access to standard data products
- ability to customize extractions and tabulations
- links to other sources of data
- multiple methods of data access through intermediaries, printed reports, CD-ROM, and telephone

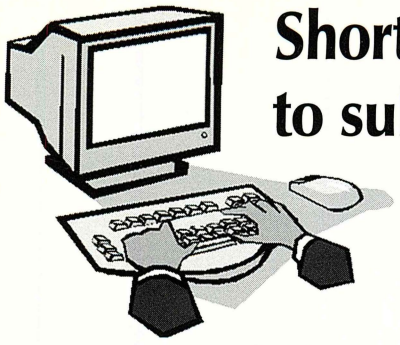
In the area of performance, emphasis is being placed on speed in data access and proven, available technology.

How is it being developed and who is building the system?

The system is being developed in phases that include designing, building, and testing. During each phase, the system is refined based on knowledge and experience gained during the previous phase. The system team is made up of staff from the Census Bureau, IBM, Oracle, and the Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI). Census Bureau staff members are contributing information and knowledge about product development and data users, providing experience gained in the development of the two prototypes, and serving as liaisons between IBM, other Census Bureau personnel, and customers. IBM is the principle contractor responsible for systems integration and development, user interface design experience, selection of the subcontractors, and hardware and software required. Oracle is the subcontractor providing expertise in relational database design and data warehouse technologies. ESRI is the subcontractor providing geographic, cartographic, and mapping expertise.

Will there be a cost?

The Census Bureau has stated that its goal is to disseminate information in a manner that achieves the best balance between maximizing the usefulness of the information and minimizing the cost to the government and the public. To be able to maintain and constantly improve their systems for providing information, they maintain that they must charge users a fee for some products and services. Basic information will be available free of charge through the Internet, but it is expected that there will be charges for custom tabulations of microdata, extracting and downloading large files and segments of files, and special tabulation of data not possible using American FactFinder. A final pricing policy is under discussion and will not be in service in American FactFinder before the year 2000.



Short-form recipients can use the Internet to submit answers in Census 2000

Despite an earlier decision not to collect census data via the Internet in Census 2000, the Census Bureau has now announced it will accept Internet submissions from households that receive Census 2000 short forms.

A little over a year ago, then Census Bureau director Martha Riche, citing public concerns about Internet security voiced at some stakeholder meetings and other forums, said the Census Bureau would not accept electronic reporting of Census 2000 responses via the Internet.

Riche attributed that decision to the "perception" that the confidentiality of census information might somehow be compromised. No issue is more central to the success of Census 2000 than the public's faith in the confidentiality of their census responses, she said.

But the new policy, announced in a decision memorandum signed by John H. Thompson, associate director for decennial programs, said the Census Bureau would accept census short-form responses "pending the successful completion of usability testing this spring."

Only those respondents who can supply a legitimate short-form ID number will be able to respond electronically to the census. The option will be available in English only.

The Census Bureau will be taking every known security precaution to protect the confidentiality of census responses. If any unforeseen security problems develop in Census 2000, the Internet form might be temporarily or permanently removed.

The Census Bureau also plans to offer assistance on the Internet to help respondents complete their paper form. The Universal Resource Locator (URL) for obtaining help and the Internet form will be at http://www.2000.census.gov. The URL should be entered by hand to avoid being linked to counterfeit sites and to ensure that it is the offical Census Bureau site.

Internet application allows electronic delivery of population estimates

The widespread use of the Internet in the last decade of the 20th century has brought new opportunities for the Missouri State Census Data Center to deliver demographic data in electronic format. In keeping with this idea, John Blodgett of the Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis, University of Missouri, recently developed an Internet application for the Missouri State Census Data Center that allows users to run customized reports showing population estimates by age, gender, race, and Hispanic origin for states, counties, and metropolitan statistical areas. Estimates are available for the years 1990 through 1997, and the application can provide printed reports or comma-separated files. To use the application, go to http://www.oseda.missouri.edu/uicapps/agersex.html.

An online help page is also provided for application users (example: hold down the control key on the computer keyboard to select multiple categories or to de-select categories in this application).

The table below, showing age, race, and gender breakdowns for Missouri in 1997, was created with the new Internet application (percentages were added).

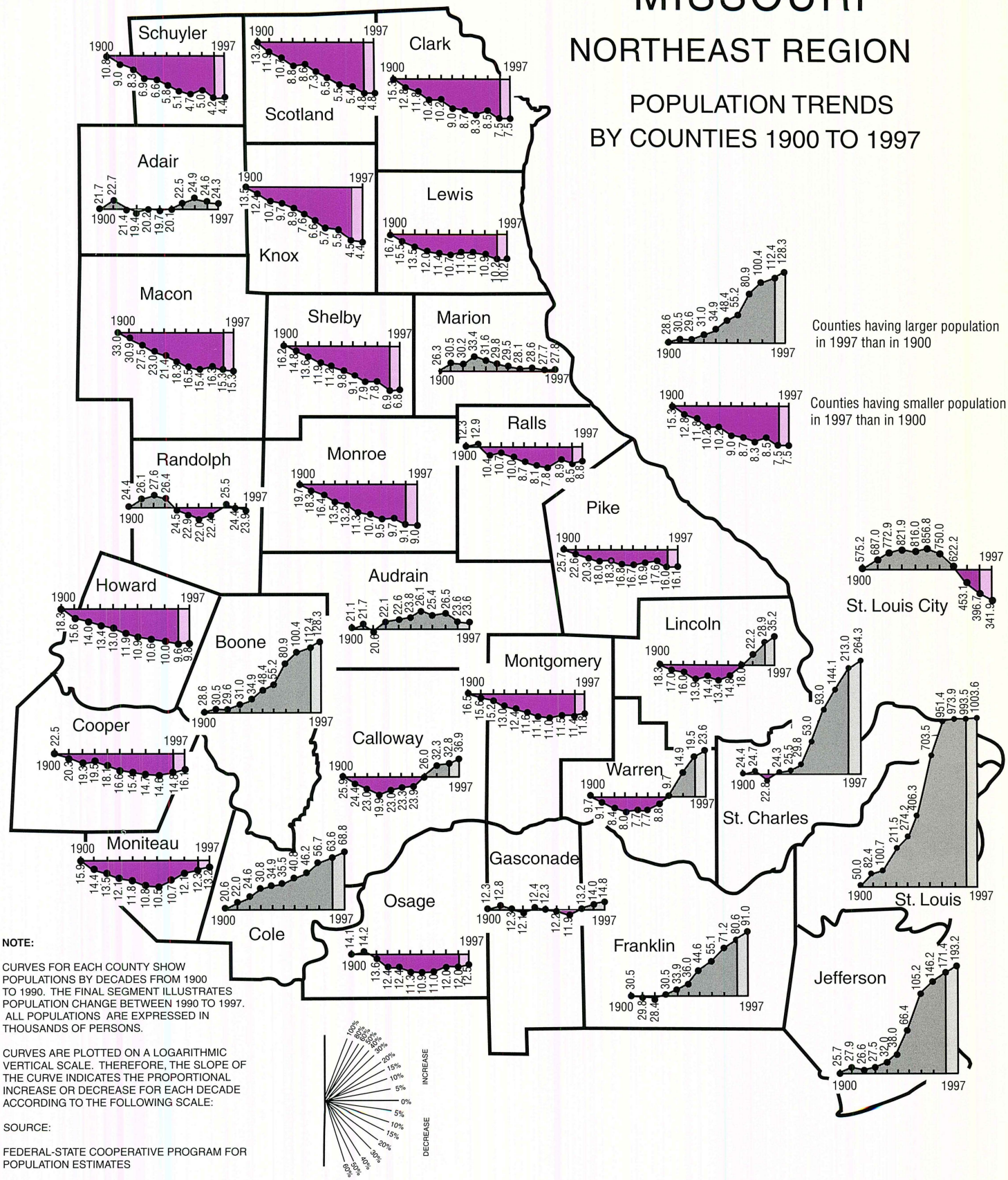
	Total Population	Age 0-17	% Age 0-17	Age 18-34	% Age 18-34	Age 35-54	% Age 35-54	Age 55-64	% Age 55-64	Age 65+	% Age 65+
Total	5,402,058	1,399,435	25.9	1,260,989	23.3	1,539,461	28.5	461,578	8.5	740,595	13.7
female	2,780,866	682,060	24.5	630,628	22.7	785,663	28.3	241,552	8.7	440,963	15.9
male	2,621,192	717,375	27.4	630,361	2.4	753,798	28.8	220,026	8.4	299,632	11.4

Missouri population in 1997

MISSOURI

NORTHEAST REGION

POPULATION TRENDS BY COUNTIES 1900 TO 1997



NOTE:

CURVES FOR EACH COUNTY SHOW POPULATIONS BY DECADES FROM 1900 TO 1990. THE FINAL SEGMENT ILLUSTRATES POPULATION CHANGE BETWEEN 1990 TO 1997. ALL POPULATIONS ARE EXPRESSED IN THOUSANDS OF PERSONS.

CURVES ARE PLOTTED ON A LOGARITHMIC VERTICAL SCALE. THEREFORE, THE SLOPE OF THE CURVE INDICATES THE PROPORTIONAL INCREASE OR DECREASE FOR EACH DECADE ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING SCALE:

SOURCE:

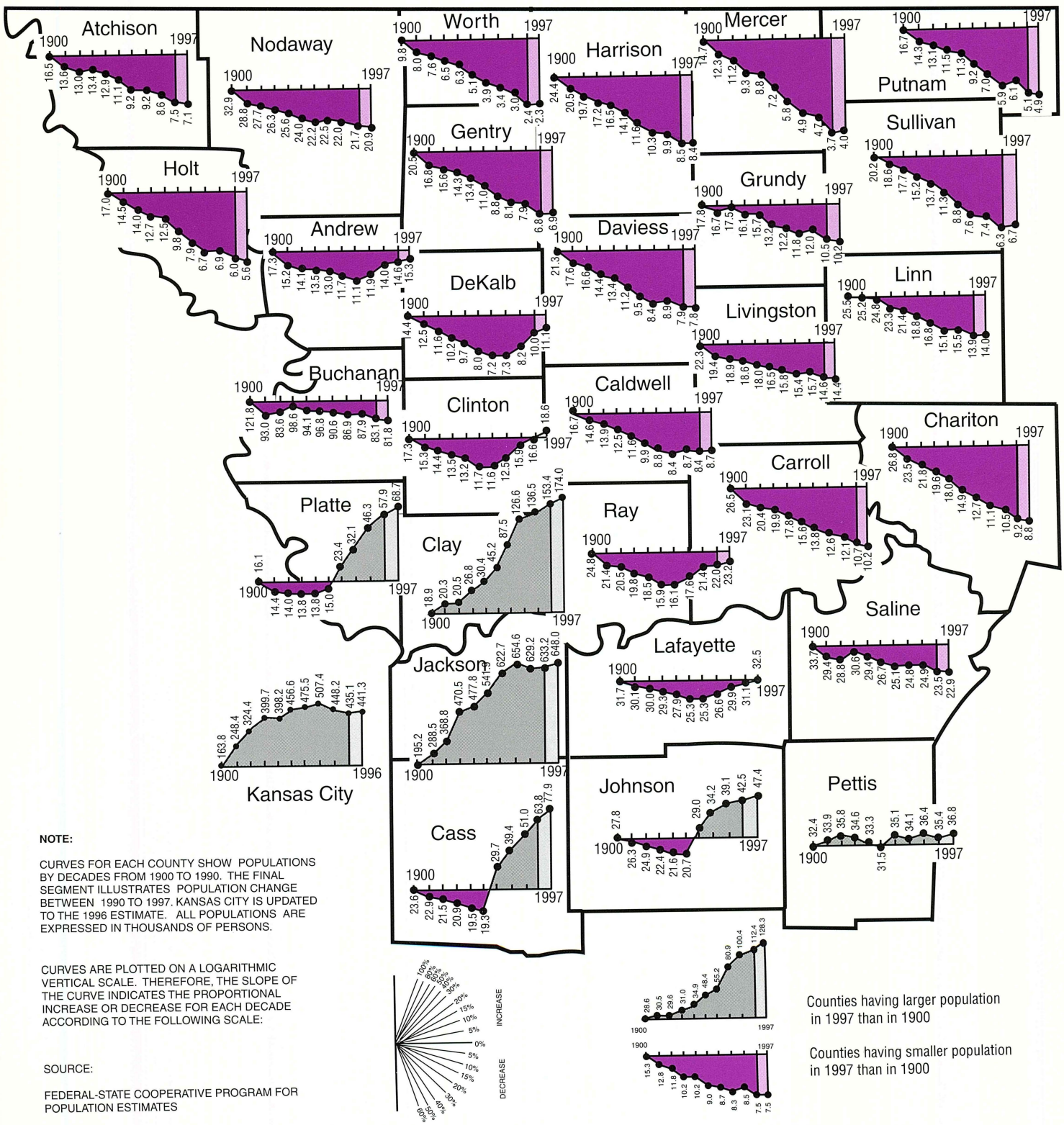
FEDERAL-STATE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM FOR POPULATION ESTIMATES

MISSOURI

NORTHWEST REGION

POPULATION TRENDS

BY COUNTIES 1900 TO 1997



NOTE:

CURVES FOR EACH COUNTY SHOW POPULATIONS BY DECADES FROM 1900 TO 1990. THE FINAL SEGMENT ILLUSTRATES POPULATION CHANGE BETWEEN 1990 TO 1997. KANSAS CITY IS UPDATED TO THE 1996 ESTIMATE. ALL POPULATIONS ARE EXPRESSED IN THOUSANDS OF PERSONS.

CURVES ARE PLOTTED ON A LOGARITHMIC VERTICAL SCALE. THEREFORE, THE SLOPE OF THE CURVE INDICATES THE PROPORTIONAL INCREASE OR DECREASE FOR EACH DECADE ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING SCALE:

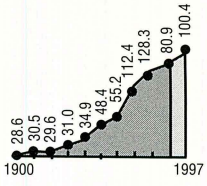
SOURCE:

FEDERAL-STATE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM FOR POPULATION ESTIMATES

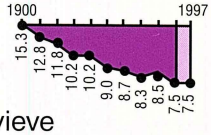
MISSOURI

SOUTHEAST REGION

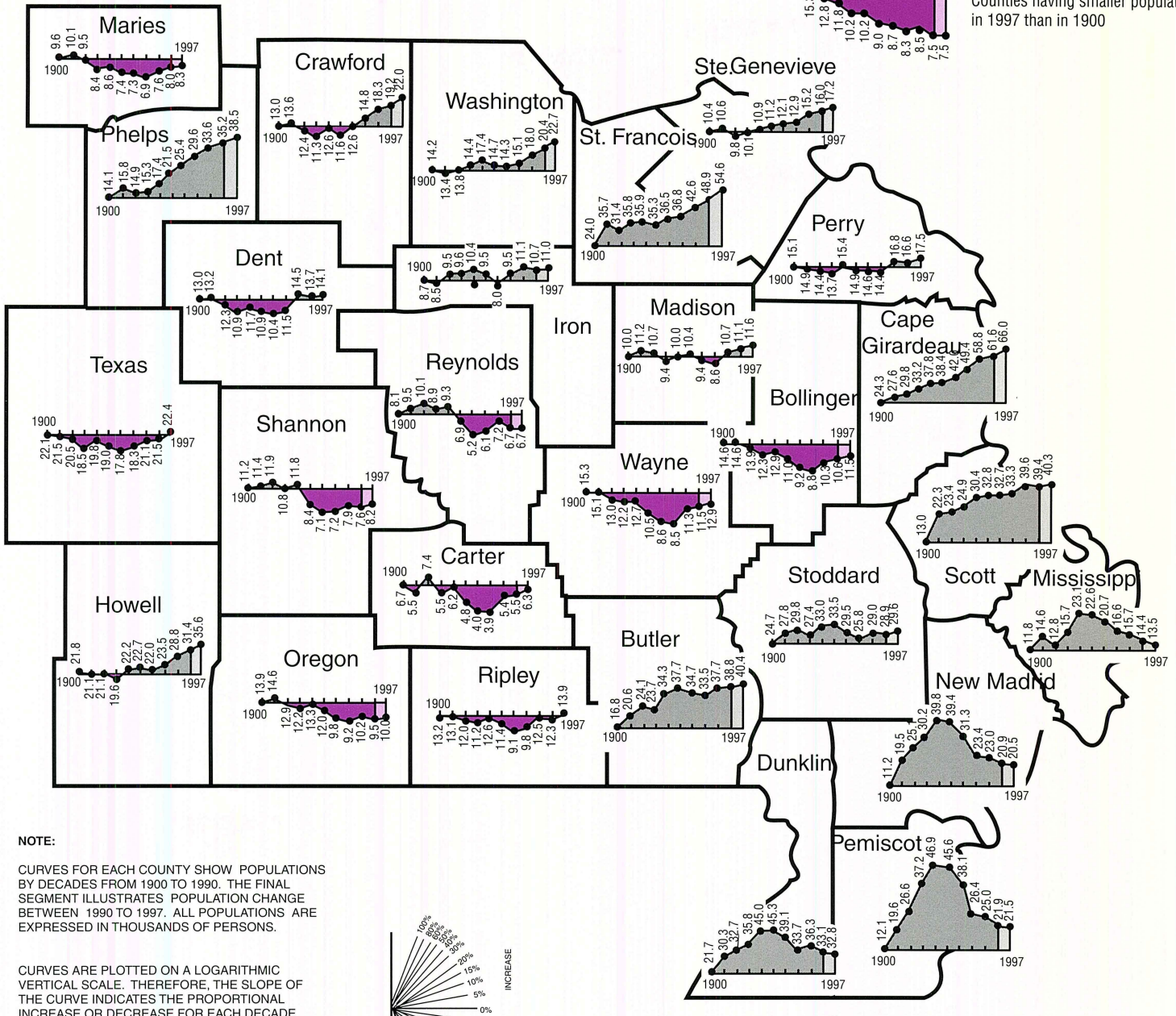
POPULATION TRENDS BY COUNTIES 1900 TO 1997



Counties having larger population in 1997 than in 1900



Counties having smaller population in 1997 than in 1900



NOTE:

CURVES FOR EACH COUNTY SHOW POPULATIONS BY DECADES FROM 1900 TO 1990. THE FINAL SEGMENT ILLUSTRATES POPULATION CHANGE BETWEEN 1990 TO 1997. ALL POPULATIONS ARE EXPRESSED IN THOUSANDS OF PERSONS.

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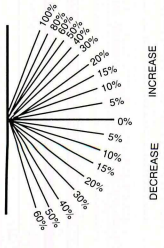


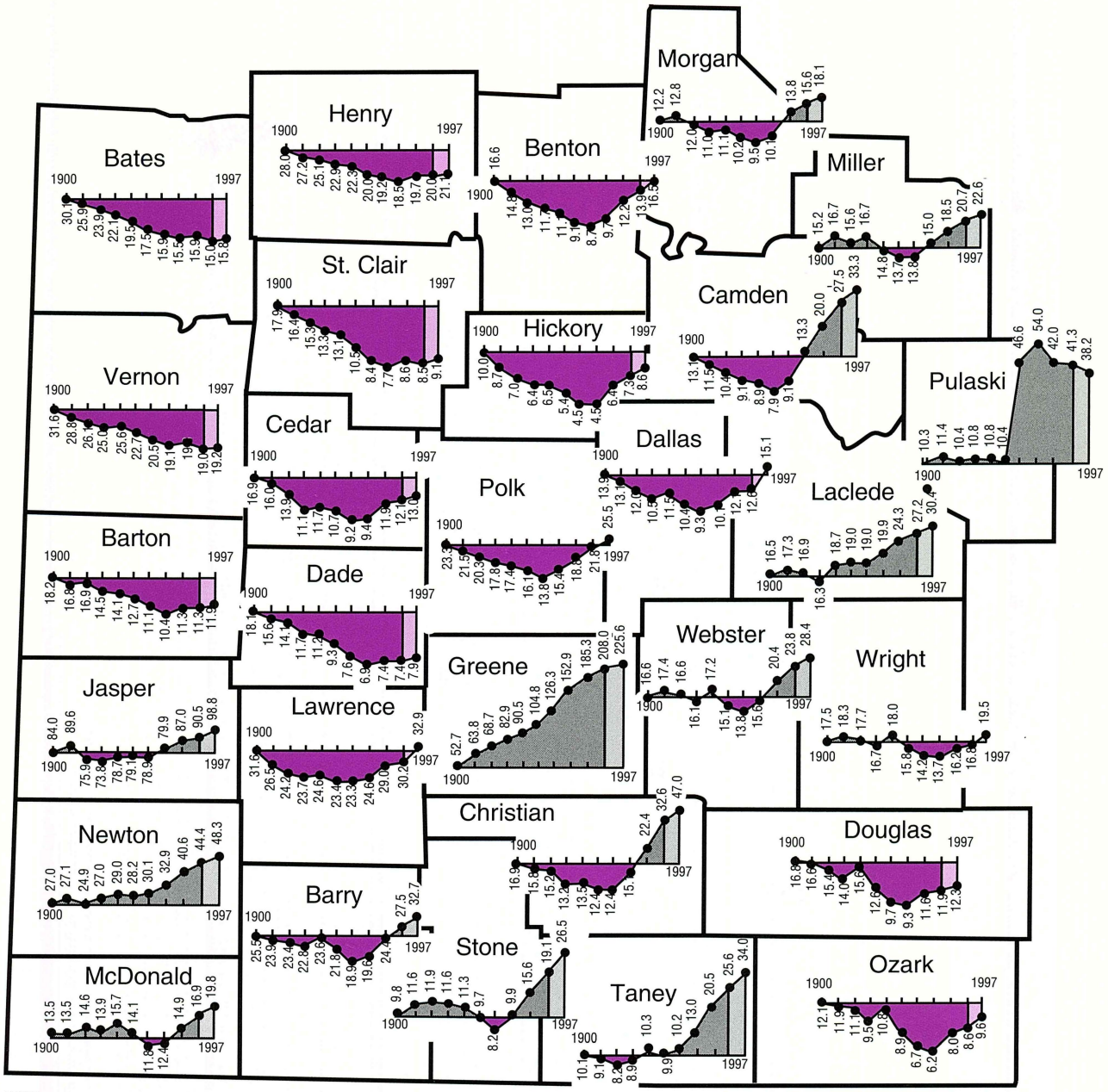
SOURCE:

FEDERAL-STATE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM FOR POPULATION ESTIMATES

MISSOURI

SOUTHWEST REGION

POPULATION TRENDS BY COUNTIES 1900 TO 1997



NOTE:

CURVES FOR EACH COUNTY SHOW POPULATIONS BY DECADES FROM 1900 TO 1990. THE FINAL SEGMENT ILLUSTRATES POPULATION CHANGE BETWEEN 1990 TO 1997. ALL POPULATIONS ARE EXPRESSED IN THOUSANDS OF PERSONS.

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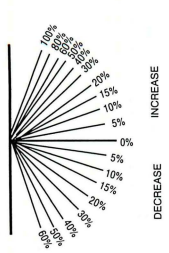
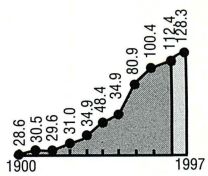
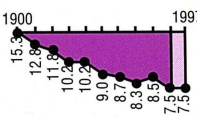


SOURCE:

FEDERAL-STATE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM FOR POPULATION ESTIMATES



Counties having larger population in 1997 than in 1900



Counties having smaller population in 1997 than in 1900

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They've watched the century change: centenarians in the United States

Average life expectancy in the United States has increased dramatically since 1900, up from 49 years at the turn of the century to just over 76 years in the late 1990s (National Center for Health Statistics). Reductions in infant mortality, the control of infectious diseases, and reductions in mortality at the oldest ages have all contributed to the drastic rise.

As with the elderly population as a whole, women outnumber men in the age 100 and above age group. Nationwide, of the 37,306 persons age 100 or over in the 1990 census, four out of five were women, a striking percentage. Centenarians represented approximately one out of every 10,000 Americans in 1990; 31 million Americans were age 65 and over. The largest group—78 percent—of centenarians were white; African Americans comprised the next largest percentage at 16 percent. This compares with 75 percent and 12 percent, respectively, of the total population.

The Census Bureau recently released a report, *Centenarians in the United States*, that provides data about educational attainment, poverty status, disability status, living arrangements, and country of birth for centenarians.

The report is available via the Internet at http://www.census.gov/prod/99pubs/p23-199.pdf. For a paper copy of the report, contact the Missouri State Census Data Center at 800-325-0131, ext. 10 (in MO), or 573-526-7648.

Census and genealogy: tracing family roots

By law (Title 44, U.S. Code) and in keeping with the Census Bureau's commitment to confidentiality, census information collected about individuals does not become available to the public until 72 years have passed. Currently, decennial censuses prior to 1930 are available for historical research. April 2002 is the scheduled date for the National Archives to open the 1930 census records for public use.

Microfilm copies of the original population schedules from 1790 through 1920* are available at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. and its 13 regional archives (http://www.nara.gov).

In addition, many libraries and state archives also maintain microfilm copies of census schedules.

**The exception is the 1890 population schedule; virtually all of the 1890 census records were destroyed in a fire in 1921.*